

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 SSC-01 EB-07 OMB-01 OES-03

CU-02 /068 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5745

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

DIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONGEN MILAN

AMCONGEN NAPLES

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2504

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: BIO SKETCHES OF NEW MINISTERS

REF: ROME 2389

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1.A. FRANCESCO PAOLO BONIFACIO, MINISTER OF PARDONS AND JUSTICE, BONIFACIO WAS BORN MAY 3, 1923 AT CASTELLAMARE DI STABIA (NAPLES). HE SUBSEQUENTLY TAUGHT ROMAN LAW AT UNIVERSITIES OF NAPLES, CAGLIARI AND BARI, BECOMING DEAN OF THE FACULTY AT BARI IN 1961. HE HAD RETURNED TO U. OF NAPLES IN 1962 WHEN HE WAS ELECTED TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT. IN FEBRUARY 1973 HE BECAME THE YOUNGEST PRESIDENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT. HIS TERM AS A CONSTITUTIONAL JUDGE EXPIRED IN OCTOBER 1975. BETWEEN 1956 AND 1960 HE HELD ELECTIVE LOCAL OFFICE AS A DC PROVINCIAL COUNCILLOR IN NAPLES. BONIFACIO IS MARRIED AND HAS A HOME IN NAPLES.

1.B. COMMENT: BONIFACIO IS A HIGHLY RESPECTED JURIST ACCEPTABLE TO WIDE POLITICAL SPECTRUM AND (LIKE COSSIGA AND STAMMATI) IS BELIEVED PERSONALLY CLOSE TO PRESIDENT LEONE. A SON OF SOCIALIST SECRETARY DE MARTINO WAS CHIEF OF BONIFACIO'S PERSONAL SECRETARIAT AT CONSTITUTIONAL COURT. BONIFACIO IS MARRIED TO A MEMBER OF THE NAPLES DC GAVA CLAN AND IS REPORTEDLY A PERSONAL FRIEND OF PCI LEADER AND FELLOW NEAPOLITAN, GIORGIO AMENDOLA. HE IS CONSIDERED AN IDEAL MAN TO MEDIATE THE ABORTION ISSUE AND FACILITATE COMPROMISE BASED ON OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT "NEUTRALITY" AND "MILD" DC PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION TO LIBERALIZED ABORTION LAW DEMANDED BY LAY PARTIES. ONE DC-ORIENTED SOURCE SPECULATED THAT BONIFACIO COULD PLAY EVEN MORE PROMINENT FUTURE ROLE IN EVENT EARLY ELECTIONS PRODUCED SITUATION WITHOUT CLEAR PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY.

2.A. GAETANO STAMMATI, MINISTER OF FINANCE. BORN OCTOBER 5, 1908, IN NAPLES, STAMMATI TOOK HIS UNIVERSITY DEGREE IN LAW IN 1930. HE SUBSEQUENTLY EMBARKED ON A CAREER IN FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION WHICH INCLUDED IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN COMMERCE, FINANCE, STATE HOLDINGS AND TREASURY. IN 1962 HE BECAME DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TREASURY MINISTRY AND FROM 1967-72 SERVED IN HIGHLY RESPONSIBLE POST OF ACCOUNTANT GENERAL OF THE STATE (ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO US TREASURY COMMISSIONER OF ACCOUNTS). HE IS FULL PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY AT ROME UNIVERSITY AND SINCE 1972 HAS HELD POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (ONE OF BIG FIVE ITALIAN COMMERCIAL BANKS). HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN EEC AFFAIRS AND IS A MEMBER OF EEC "BANK FEDERATION."

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2.B. COMMENT: STAMMATI IS A HIGHLY RESPECTED "TECHNICIAN" AND A WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO OUTGOING (REPUBLICAN PARTY) MINISTER VISENTINI. SOURCES IN FINANCIAL FIELD CONSIDER STAMMATI COMPETENT, CAUTIOUS, POLITICALLY CONSERVATIVE AND A GOOD MANAGER. HE IS LINKED TO CENTRIST FACTIONS OF DC PARTY AND IS BELIEVED TO HAVE FRIENDLY PERSONAL TIES WITH PRESIDENT LEONE. HE IS WIDELY TRAVELLED AND HIGHLY CULTURED.

3.A. LUCIANO DAL FALCO, MINISTER OF HEALTH. BORN MAY 10, 1925 AT VERONA, DAL FALCO TOOK HIS UNIVERSITY DEGREE IN LAW. HE SERVED AS DC PROVINCIAL COUNCILLOR IN VERONA FROM 1956-60 AND WAS FIRST ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT (CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES) IN 1958. HE SUCCESSFULLY RAN FOR SENATE IN 1968 AND WAS RE-ELECTED TO HIS FOURTH TERM IN PARLIAMENT IN 1972. FROM 1961-64 DAL FALCO SERVED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF EUROPEAN UNION OF DC PARTIES. HE IS A MEMBER OF SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMISSION AND OF THE DC SENATE GROUP LEADERSHIP. THIS IS HIS FIRST MINISTERIAL POSITION, GAINED WITHOUT THE NORMAL "APPRENTICESHIP" AS AN UNDERSECRETARY.

3.B. COMMENT: DAL FALCO IS A POLITICAL ALLY OF CENTRIST FACTION LEADER BISAGLIA AND THUS A POLITICAL OPPONENT WITHIN THE PARTY FO FONMIN RUMOR IN THE HEAVILY DC VENETO REGION. HE IS A CONVINCED SUPPORTER OF NATO AND CLOSE US-ITALIAN TIES AND STRONGLY OPPOSES ANY IDEA OF DC-PCI "HISTORIC COMPROMISE." DAL FALCO HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE PROPONENT OF GENERATIONAL CHANGE WITHIN THE DC PARTY AND HIS ELEVATION MAY BE SEEN AS A CONCESSION BY MORO TO "REFORMERS" IN DC SENATE GROUP.

4. FIRST MEETING OF NEW CABINET ANNOUNCED FOR 1800 TODAY (FEB 13). PRESENTATION OF GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM IN PARLIAMENT NOW EXPECTED ON THURSDAY, FEB. 19.VOLPE

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